

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 060027

62

ORIGIN SS-14

INFO OCT-01 CCO-00 RSC-01 FILE-01 SSO-00 ADP-00 /017 R

DRAFTED BY S/ S- O: J. LEE

4/1/73 21512

APPROVED BY S/ S- O: R. VIETS

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O 012027 Z APR 73 ZFF6

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO WHITE HOUSE

INFO USDEL SAN CLEMENTE IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 060027

TOSEC 51

E. O.11652 N/ A

TAGS: MILI; NVN

SUBJECT: PRESS COVERAGE OF PW MISTREATMENT

WHITE HOUSE PASS TO SECRETARY ROGERS IN SAN CLEMENTE.

1. IN ITS SUNDAY EDITION, THE NEW YORK TIMES CARRIED A BOTTOM OF PAGE ONE INTERVIEW ( WITH PICTURES) OF NAVY CAPTAIN JAMES MULLIGAN WHO RECALLED THAT PRISONER TREATMENT VARIED GREATLY DEPENDING ON ONE' S RANK AND ATTITUDE. THE WASHINGTON POST GAVE PROMINENT PICTURE COVERAGE ON PAGE ONE TO PW TORTURE DEMONSTRATIONS AND DEVOTED ITS PAGE ONE TEXT TO ADMINISTRATION SPOKESMEN' S PLEDGE TO CARRY THROUGH ON ECONOMIC AID TO HANOI DESPITE WIDESPREAD PUBLIC INDIGNATION OVER THE PWS DISCLOSURES. ON SATURDAY, THE TIMES CARRIED A PAGE FOUR MISTREATMENT STORY WHILE THE POST FAILED TO MENTION THE ITEM.

2. IN THE ONLY WEEKEND EDITORIAL TREATMENT, SUNDAY' S POST REMINDED ITS READERS THAT THOUGH QUOTE NO AMERICAN CAN FAIL TO BE DEEPLY OFFENDED END QUOTE BY THE ACCOUNTS OF PRISONER MISTREATMENT, THEY SHOULD REMEMBER THE QUOTE MEASURES OF SUFFERING END QUOTE THAT BEFELL MANY OTHER PEOPLE. THE POST ALSO URGED PRESIDENT NIXON QUOTE NOT TO

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EXPLOIT THE POWS FOR HIS POLEMICAL AND POLITICAL PURPOSES  
END QUOTE AND TO QUIT HARPING ON THE SUCCESS OF HIS  
VIETNAM POLICIES AS CONTRASTED WITH THOSE SUGGESTED BY HIS  
OPPONENTS.

3. IN A SUNDAY AFTERNOON TICKER ITEM, ASSOCIATED PRESS  
REPORTS A BROADCAST HEARD IN TOKYO AS CLAIMING THE PW  
TORTURE STORIES WERE DRUMMED UP TO EFFECT ATTENTION  
FROM WHAT HANOI LABELS US CRIMES IN VIETNAM. RUSH

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\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* UNCLASSIFIED

## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Decaption Note:**  
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**Review Event:**  
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**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
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**To:** SAN CLEMENTE  
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**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005